

South Carolina Board of Nursing
April 2003 Insert into the
SC Nurse Newsletter

Board Mission

The mission of the State Board of Nursing for South Carolina is the protection of public health, safety, and welfare by assuring safe and competent practice of nursing.

This mission is accomplished by assuring safe initial practice as well as continuing competency in the practice of nursing and by promoting nursing excellence in the areas of education and practice. The Board licenses qualified individuals as licensed practical nurses or registered nurses. Complaints against nurses are investigated and disciplinary action taken when necessary. Schools of nursing are surveyed and approved to ensure quality education for future nurses.

Board Vacancy

There is one vacant position on the Board of Nursing. This position is for a registered nurse to represent the Third Congressional District. Board members must be licensed in South Carolina, must be employed, must have at least three years of practice in their respective profession immediately preceding their appointment, and must reside in the district they represent. If you are a registered nurse or know of a registered nurse who would like to be considered for a position on the Board of Nursing, please submit a letter of request along with a copy of your resume and/or curriculum vitae to the Governor's Office, Post Office Box 11829, Columbia, SC 29211.

Board Member Reappointed

On January 3, 2003, Governor Jim Hodges reappointed Rose Kearney-Nunnery to serve a second term representing the Second Congressional District. Dr. Kearney-Nunnery was elected president of the Board at the November 2002 meeting. Dr. Sylvia Whiting serves as vice-president and Suzanne White as secretary.

Nurse Practice Act Revision

Laws governing nursing in South Carolina are being revised and open meetings have been held for Board members and staff to receive input from nurses and the public on those changes. Open meetings were held in Columbia, Greenville, Florence, and Charleston. A number of nurses spoke at these sessions. The Board also received numerous comments by mail and email. The Board and staff would like to take this opportunity to thank those who participated in these efforts to update the laws governing our practice.

Board Approves Plans For APRN Renewal Audit

The Board of Nursing has approved plans for the first office based audit of Advanced Practice Registered Nurse renewal to begin in May 2003. These plans were first endorsed and recommended to the Board by the Nursing Practice and Standards Committee and the Advanced Practice Subcommittee. Five percent of all 2003 renewed APRN with prescriptive authority and 5 percent of those without prescriptive authority, which includes CRNAs, will be randomly

selected by computer for audit. Those selected will be notified by mail and will have 72 hours to post the required documentation to the Board as required by the nurse practice act.

For nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists with official recognition, and certified nurse midwives, this will include:

- Copy of current certification per Regulation 91-6.c.
- If holding prescriptive authority, copies of pharmacotherapeutics education in accord with current Board policy.
- Copy of "General Data" requirements from written protocols per Regulation 91-6.h.2.a. for all current practice sites.

For certified registered nurse anesthetists, this will include:

- Copy of current certification per Regulation 91-6.c.
- Copy of "General Data" section from written guidelines per Regulation 91-6.i.2.a. for all current practice sites.

Non-compliance may result in disciplinary action by the Board. Please address any questions to Bob Barnwell or Sandra Bryant in the Practice and Advanced Practice section.

Position Statement On Pharmacotherapeutics Education Required For Prescriptive Authority Application

Approved by the SC Board of Nursing on January 30, 2003 - Effective July 1, 2003

Regulation 91-g.j outlines the requirements for applying for initial prescriptive authority and renewal. In addition to requirements for Official Recognition and national certification, the regulations specify that evidence of completion of forty-five (45) contact hours of education in pharmacotherapeutics, within two years preceding the application and acceptable to the Board, must be provided for initial approval. Fifteen (15) contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics within the preceding two years are required for renewal of prescriptive authority privileges.

INITIAL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Forty-five (45) contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics education must have been completed in the two years prior to the date of the application. This applies to APRNs previously holding prescriptive authority in another state but whose privileges in that state have expired by more than six (6) months. APRNs with documented current prescriptive authority in another state must submit documentation of at least fifteen (15) hours within the two (2) years preceding the date of their application.
2. APRNs who have graduated from graduate school within the preceding two (2) years who have completed the required forty-five (45) contact hours of pharmacotherapeutics in the curriculum and who have not had a break in their enrollment will meet the educational requirements as defined in the regulation. Fifteen (15) additional hours of pharmacotherapeutics education are required if the graduate has not been continuously enrolled in the graduate program and there are more than two (2) years between the completion of the pharmacotherapeutics course(s) and graduation.

RENEWAL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Fifteen (15) contact hours of continuing education in pharmacotherapeutics related to the APRNs certification specialty must be verified every two (2) years and documented upon Board request for renewal of prescriptive authority.
2. The Board randomly audits renewal applications and, if audited, documentation of pharmacotherapeutics education in accord with this policy must be provided. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Contact hours may be obtained through a single course taught in an approved program of study, or through multiple approved continuing education offerings, which may include self-study courses, interactive video based and interactive computer based courses. Interactive means those educational offerings characterized by the student's active engagement in the learning process. Interactive courses provide a student with the opportunity to establish an ongoing dialogue with faculty and/or other students during the educational offering. Examples of interactive learning may include web-based on-line education, distance education and learner-centered programs.
2. A maximum of fifteen percent (15%) of the total required pharmacotherapeutics education may be obtained by approved non-interactive, correspondence, or self-study audiotape or journal courses. For initial applications, this is a limit of 6.75 contact hours, and for renewal applications, a limit of 2.25 contact hours.
3. For initial applications, a maximum of fifteen percent (15%), or 6.75 hours, may be obtained through approved alternative, natural, herbal or complementary pharmacotherapeutics education. For renewal applications, a maximum of fifteen percent (15%), or 2.25 hours, may be obtained through approved alternative, natural, herbal or complementary pharmacotherapeutics education.
4. Initial applicants and renewal applicants selected for audit must provide the following evidence of pharmacotherapeutics education, as applicable:
 - a. Documentation of attendance either by official transcript or copies of certificates of continuing education attendance. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the university to the Board of Nursing. Graduates of in-state graduate nursing programs may hand-carry official transcripts to the Board offices and will be accepted if transcripts are personally delivered to Board staff members in officially sealed envelopes.
 - b. Documentation of continuing education approval by an authorized or accredited provider (i.e., national certifying organization, college or university, state regulatory body, national or state professional organization).
 - c. A description of course content which is applicable to the APRN specialty area(s) of practice.

Board Appoints New Members To Nursing Practice And Standards Committee And Advanced Practice Subcommittee

The newest member of the Nursing Practice and Standards Committee is Rachel Franklin, ANP. She was nominated by the South Carolina Nurses Association (SCNA) Board

and appointed by the Board of Nursing as SCNA representative. The Committee meets again on April 17, 2003, and meetings are open to the nursing community and public.

The Board has appointed Carolyn O'Quinn, CRNA, Thomas Chappell, CNM, and Suzan Alexander, CNM, as the newest members of the Advanced Practice Subcommittee. At its last meeting on January 17, 2003, the Subcommittee elected Rodel Bobadilla, FNP, as the new chair and Kathy Saunders, PNP, as the new vice-chair. The Subcommittee also convened via conference call on February 28, 2003, to consider the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Multi-State Compact, and certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) education and practice issues currently being reviewed by the Board of Nursing and Board of Medical Examiners. The Subcommittee meets next on April 25, 2003, and all licensees, particularly APRNs, are welcome to attend.

Advisory Opinions –Revised

The Board has approved the revised advisory opinions below since November 2002. These statements are advisory opinions as to what constitutes competent and safe nursing practice.

ADVISORY OPINION #44

QUESTION: Is it within the role and scope of practice for the registered nurse (RN) to insert prostaglandin analogs (e.g., misoprostol) into the vagina for cervical ripening or induction of labor with a viable fetus?

OPINION: The Board of Nursing has determined that it is NOT within the role and scope of practice for the registered nurse (RN) to administer prostaglandin analogs (e.g., misoprostol) vaginally for cervical ripening or induction of labor with a viable fetus.

ADVISORY OPINION #43

QUESTION: Is it within the role and scope of the registered nurse (RN) to perform Department of Transportation (DOT) medical examinations for purposes of determining qualifications for driving in accordance with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (49 CFR 391.41-391.49)?

OPINION: The Board of Nursing for South Carolina acknowledges that it is NOT within the role and scope of responsibility for the registered nurse (RN) to perform the DOT medical examination. The Board recognizes that certain assessment and data collection components of the examination are within the role and scope of responsibility of the RN, but not the actual medical examination and determination of medical clearance as a commercial driver unless recognized as an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN).

On-Line Renewal

This past renewal season, more than 11,000 nurses renewed online. This was an excellent response for the first year opening the online renewal to all non-disciplined nurses. We hope that we will continue to have marked increases in online renewals. There are many benefits of renewing on-line including having a printable receipt for the nurse to provide to his/her

employer. Additionally, on-line renewals have a much shorter turnaround time with the average being three business days, which is much shorter than the manual method with mailing time.

Address Change

It is important that you update the Board whenever you change addresses to receive important information such as your license renewal. Regulation 91-12.5 requires all licensees to notify the Board in writing within fifteen (15) days of an address change.

S.C. Board Of Nursing Board Members:

Rose Kearney-Nunnery, RN, PhD, President
Sylvia Whiting, RN, PhD, CS, Vice President
Suzanne K. White, RN, MN, FAAN, FCCM, CNAA, Secretary
Mattie S. Jenkins, LPN
Brenda Y. Martin, RNC, MN, CNAA
Debra J. Newton, LPN
Keith A. Torgersen, RN, MSN, CRNA
James P. Rogers, Esquire
District 3 -Registered Nurse Vacancy

S.C. Board Of Nursing Board Staff:

Licensing

Edwina Garrett, Endorsement (803) 896-4536
Margo Pierce, Examination (NCLEX -RN/LPN) (803) 896-4527
Brandi Risher, Renewal, Reinstatement, Lost License, Name/Address Change (803) 896-4523
Kathryn Spires, License Verification (803) 896-4530
Judy Moore, General Assistance (803) 896-4743
Pamela Holmes, General Assistance (803) 896-4531
Judith Haught, Program Assistant (803) 896-6949
Nancy Murphy, RN, MSN, Program Coordinator (803) 803-896-4550

Practice

Robert (Bob) Barnwell, RN, MS, Nurse Consultant, Practice Questions (803) 896-4522

Advanced Practice

Sandra Bryant, Advanced Practice Licensure (803) 896-4524

Regulatory Compliance/Disciplinary

Phyllis Glenn, Disciplinary/Compliance (803) 896-4535
Tanya Styles, Compliance (803) 896-4542
Frances Starr, Compliance (803) 896-4847
Joel Griggs, Investigator (803) 896-4745
Gregg Hinson, Investigator (803) 896-4816
Neal Rainwater, Investigator (803) 896-4526
A.C. Williams, Investigator (803) 896-4534

Donald W. Hayden, Manager (803) 896-4528

Administration

Martha Summer Bursinger, RN, MSN, MEd, Administrator (803) 896-4550

Dottie M. Buchanan, Administrative Assistant (803) 896-4533

Janet Scheper, Office Manager (803) 896-4539

Visit Us On Our Web site: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/

The S.C. Board of Nursing Web site contains a staff directory with email addresses, Licensee Lookup link, *Laws Governing Nursing in South Carolina*, Advisory Opinions, Disciplinary Actions, frequently asked questions, and other information/links. To verify a license, choose Licensee Look Up on the Board's Web site and enter the nurse's last name or license number. This site will provide you with the name, city of residence, license number and expiration date. You may also check Disciplinary Actions on our Web site to verify that a license is in good standing. Licensee Lookup and Disciplinary Actions listings contain names of nurses with permanent licenses only.

Office Location/Hours of Operation

S.C. Board of Nursing is located at Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Suite 202, 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC 29210. Directions to our office can be found on our Web site (www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/nursing/). Mailing address: Post Office Box 12367, Columbia, SC 29211-2367. Hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday, except for designated state holidays.

Office Closings for Remainder of 2003

The Board office will be closed on days, as designated by the State of South Carolina:

Confederate Memorial Day	May 9, 2003
National Memorial Day	May 26, 2003
Independence Day	July 4, 2003
Labor Day	September 1, 2003
Veteran's Day	November 11, 2003
Thanksgiving Day	November 27, 2003
Day after Thanksgiving	November 28, 2003
Christmas Day	December 25, 2003
Day after Christmas	December 26, 2003

Board and Committee Meetings for Remainder of 2003

April 15, 2003	Advisory Committee on Nursing
April 17, 2003	Nursing Practice & Standards Committee
May 28, 2003	Strategic Planning Meeting
May 29-30, 2003	Board Meeting
June 17, 2003	Advisory Committee on Nursing
June 19, 2003	Nursing Practice & Standards Committee
July 31-August 1, 2003	Board Meeting
August 19, 2003	Advisory Committee on Nursing

August 21, 2003	Nursing Practice & Standards Committee
September 25-26, 2003	Board Meeting
October 16, 2003	Nursing Practice & Standards Committee
October 21, 2003	Advisory Committee on Nursing
November 20-21, 2003	Board Meeting
December 11, 2003	Nursing Practice & Standards Committee
December 16, 2003	Advisory Committee on Nursing